

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of )

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)  
Policies and Rules Implementing )  
the Telephone Disclosure and Dispute )  
Resolution Act )

CC Docket No. 93-22  
RM-7990

GTE's COMMENTS IN SUPPORT OF AT&T

GTE Service Corporation and its affiliated domestic telephone operating companies ("GTE"), pursuant to Section 1.3 of the Commission's Rules, submit these comments supporting AT&T's Petition for Limited Interim Waiver on an Expedited Basis.<sup>1</sup>

BACKGROUND

The Report and Order, FCC 93-349 (released August 13, 1993) (the "*Report and Order*") and Section 64.1510(a)(2)(ii) of the Commission's Rules impose on certain common carriers, among other things, the "*Bill-Separation Obligation*", i.e., that common carriers assigning telephone numbers to providers of interstate pay-per-call services ("PPC Providers") and offering billing and collection services to PPC Providers "[d]isplay any charges for pay-per-call services in a part of the bill that is identified as not being related to local and long distance telephone charges."

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<sup>1</sup> See also U S WEST's Petition for Reconsideration (at 1-2), which asked for a limited waiver of the *Bill-Separation Obligation* until June 1994; and CBT's Petition for Limited Temporary Waiver. GTE understands additional filing of like import have been or will be made by other Local Exchange Carriers.

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## DISCUSSION

### **GTE Supports AT&T Petition for Limited Interim Waiver on an Expedited Basis**

While GTE is not subject to the *Bill-Separation Obligation*, it recognizes that compliance with that obligation by a number of parties, particularly interexchange carriers, is dependent on GTE's performance as the billing and collection agent of such parties. Supporting AT&T, GTE respectfully asks the Commission to make provision for a schedule by which 98 percent of GTE's access lines will be in compliance with the *Bill-Separation Obligation* by the end of June 1994, and all of GTE's access lines will be in compliance by August 15, 1994.<sup>2</sup>

While GTE intends to apply its best efforts to assuring compliance of such parties with the Commission's rules to the maximum extent feasible, there are two serious complications unique to GTE that make this very difficult:

First: GTE does business in thirty-seven states -- far more than any other exchange carrier -- and must comply with requirements issued by any of those states. Each state's bill format is unique and must be changed and tested prior to installation.

Second: Upon the GTE-CONTEL merger in 1991, the CONTEL companies were converted to GTE's then-current billing system (the "CRB" system). GTE is now in the process of integrating the CONTEL locations into GTE's new billing system (the "CBSS" system). Completed integration of these systems is a key element in terms of GTE's complying with a wide variety of

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<sup>2</sup> Referring to the Affidavit of Anne Farrington (AT&T Petition, Att. A), GTE is -- apart from the *Bill-Separation Obligation* -- in full compliance with Sections 64.1509 and 64.1510 of the Commission's Rules.

legal and customer requirements in many states. Former CONTEL locations are being converted to CBSS in a phased approach throughout 1994. GTE's resources are heavily committed to the CRB-to-CBSS conversion.

GTE supports AT&T by stressing the difficulties of compliance. GTE is determined to assure compliance with the *Bill-Separation Obligation* as quickly as possible, and is applying all available resources to that end. GTE will be able to assure that these customers meet the *Bill-Separation Obligation* in accordance with orders placed with GTE for 98 percent of GTE's access lines by the end of June 1994; and for all of GTE's access lines by August 15, 1994.<sup>3</sup>

The relief requested comes within the *WAIT Radio*<sup>4</sup> standards since:

(1) assuring compliance with the *Bill-Separation Obligation* by November 1, 1993 would not merely impose substantial hardship; it cannot be done by GTE.

(2) there will be no hardship to the public, which is being duly notified of its rights.

**Accordingly:** In support of AT&T, GTE respectfully asks the Commission to make provision for the foregoing schedule, by which, for 98 percent of GTE's access lines, there will be compliance with the *Bill-Separation Obligation* by the

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<sup>3</sup> Specifically, 29.9% of GTE's access lines would be in compliance by the end of 1993 and 47% by the end of March 1994.

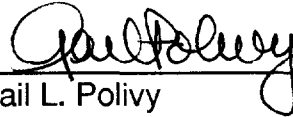
<sup>4</sup> *Wait Radio v. FCC*, 418 F.2d 1153 (D.C. Cir. 1969), *cert. denied*, 409 U.S. 1027 (1972). *See also* *Northeast Cellular Co. v. FCC*, 897 F.2d 1164 (D.C. Cir. 1990).

end of June 1994; and, for all of GTE's access lines, there will be compliance by August 15, 1994.

Respectfully submitted,

GTE Service Corporation and  
its affiliated domestic  
telephone operating companies

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gail Polivy", is written over a horizontal line.

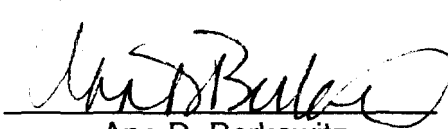
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October 22, 1993

Their Attorneys

## Certificate of Service

I, Ann D. Berkowitz, hereby certify that copies of the foregoing "GTE's Comments in Support of AT&T" have been mailed by first class United States mail, postage prepaid, on the 22nd day of October, 1993 to all parties of record.



Ann D. Berkowitz